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Application/Control Number: 10/722,322 GAU:2875 OCT 18 2005 Page 1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION OF: Robert C. Maxwell, et. al**

**Serial No.: 10/722,322**

**Filed: 11/24/2003**

**Group Art Unit: 2875**

**Title: Apparatus and method for minimizing or eliminating shadows in display devices**

**Examiner: Ali Alavi**

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
VIA FACSIMILE: 571-273-8300

Honorable Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated Aug. 9, 2005, kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the abstract to read:

A display device utilizes an acrylic sheet frosted throughout its structure and an opaque surface or panel. The acrylic sheet or panel is placed substantially parallel to the opaque surface or panel such that the acrylic sheet or panel and the opaque surface or panel are separated by a distance of between 1 and 185 millimeters (.04 to 7.3 inches). Display items are mounted on item supports on the display side of the acrylic sheet or panel. Shadows cast by the display items or item supports on the acrylic sheet are absorbed by the acrylic sheet or panel due to the nature of the frosted acrylic material and spacing between the acrylic sheet or panel and the opaque background surface or panel.